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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

NSC UNDER SECRETARIES COMMITTEE

SECRET NSC-U/N-68

July 26, 1973

TO:

The Deputy Secretary of Defense The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

The Director of Central Intelligence

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

The Deputy Secretary of the Treasury

The Secretary of the Army

The Under Secretary of Commerce

The Under Secretary of Transportation

The Associate Director, Office of Management

and Budget

SUBJECT:

The Panama Canal

REF:

NSC-U/SM-136

On July 23, 1973 the Chairman addressed a memorandum to the Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs on the subject of the Panama Canal. A copy of this memorandum was forwarded to you on the same date.

The Chairman requested that the Inter-Agency Group undertake a separate study assessing the desirability and feasibility of the transfer of the Southern Command from the Canal Zone, and the appointment of a civilian to head the Canal Zone Government.

The deadline for the study concerning the transfer of the Southern Command from the Canal Zone has been advanced to October 31, 1973.

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The deadline for a separate study concerning the appointment of a civilian to head the Canal Zone Government remains August 30, 1973.

Brandon Grove, Jr.

Staff Director

cc: USIA - The Director
AEC - The Chairman
ACDA - The Director